

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (Cancelled)

Claims 13-20 (Withdrawn)

21. (Currently Amended) A method for [inhibiting the growth of] increasing the activation of T cells against non-T cell tumor cells and tissue cells in a mammalian host, the method comprising:

contacting at least one T cell of said host with (a) a self antigen preparation comprising a self antigen, wherein said self antigen is expressed on tissue cells and non T-cell tumor cells arising from said tissue and (b) a CTLA-4 blocking agent characterized as specifically binding to the extracellular domain of CTLA-4 and inhibitory of CTLA-4 signaling, wherein said CTLA-4 blocking agent comprises an antibody or a fragment thereof[;]

[whereby] , wherein said contacting is effective to break immune tolerance against said self antigen and stimulate an autoreactive T cell response [against said self antigen expressed on said non-T cell tumor cells and normal cells] against said tissue cells and said non T cell tumor cells expressing said self antigen.

22 (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 21, wherein said self antigen preparation comprises a tumor vaccine containing said self antigen.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 23, wherein said tumor vaccine comprises [tumor cells transduced with a cytokine-encoding transgene] cytokine-transduced tumor cells containing said self antigen.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 21, wherein said self antigen preparation comprises tumor cell lysates containing said self antigen.

26. (Cancelled)

27 (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 21, wherein said contacting step comprises administering said self antigen preparation and said CTLA-4 blocking agent to said mammalian host either simultaneously or sequentially.

28. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 21, wherein said contacting step occurs *ex vivo* and said at least one T cell is administered to said host.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 21, comprising contacting said mammalian T cell with an immune response stimulating agent either simultaneously or sequentially.
